

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi YAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP2003/013240)

I.A. Filed : October 16, 2003

For : SPINEL FERRIMAGNETIC PARTICLES AND MAGNETIC  
RECORDING MEDIUM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows. The amendment to claim 1 incorporates the amendment made in International Application No. PCT/JP2003/013240 and the amendments to claims 3, 4, 5, and 7 delete multiple dependency.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.